

**MINUTES OF THE
UTAH INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION**
Tuesday, May 20, 2008 – 2:00 p.m. – Room C250 State Capitol

Members Present:

Sen. Mark B. Madsen, Senate Chair
Rep. Sheryl L. Allen, House Chair
Sen. Carlene Walker
Rep. Jackie Biskupski
Rep. Kerry W. Gibson
Rep. Brad King
Mr. Brian Farr
Mr. Brett W. Heimbürger

Members Excused:

Sen. Brent H. Goodfellow
Mr. Miguel R. Rovira

Staff Present:

Mr. Richard C. North, Policy Analyst
Mr. Chris Parker, Associate General Counsel
Ms. Tracey Fredman, Legislative Secretary

Note: A list of others present, a copy of related materials, and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at www.le.utah.gov.

1. Commission Business

Chair Madsen called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m.

MOTION: Rep. Gibson moved to approve the minutes of the October 16, 2007 meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Rep. Biskupski was absent for the vote.

2. Update: World Trade Organization (WTO) Talks

Mr. Parker distributed and reviewed "State Regulation Under Drafts of Proposed GATS Changes," and responded to questions about definition of terms.

MOTION: Rep. Allen moved that the Commission authorize staff to send a letter to USTR expressing concern and encouraging them to continue oppose the inclusion of national policy objectives in the negotiations, and that copies of the letter be sent to our congressional representatives and legislative leadership. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Update: Columbia Free Trade Agreement (FTA)

Mr. Parker updated the Commission on the Columbia Free Trade Agreement. He said there is not a lot of optimism about it being approved this year.

Rep. Julie Fisher spoke in favor of expressing legislative support of the Columbia Free Trade Agreement by the Utah State Legislature.

MOTION: Sen. Walker moved that the Commission send a letter in support of the Columbia Free Trade Agreement addressed to Congress.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION: Rep. Allen moved to have staff draft a letter to Congress in support of the Columbia Free Trade Agreement and have Commission member signatures optional. The motion passed unanimously.

4. U.S. Trade Adjustment Assistance

Mr. North distributed and commented on "U.S. Trade Adjustment Assistance," "Reforming Trade Adjustment Assistance: Keeping a 40-Year Promise," and "Strengthening Trade Adjustment Assistance."

5. Utah World Trade Center/Governor's Office of Economic Development

Mr. Craig Peterson, Director, International Trade and Diplomacy, Governor's Office of Economic Development, distributed and presented "Utah Export Figures," "Export Focus," and a draft of "Memorandum of Understanding Between World Trade Center Utah and International Office of Trade and Diplomacy."

Mr. Lew Cramer, President and CEO, Utah World Trade Center, distributed "Intermountain Global Quarterly" and expressed optimism about trade within the state and said that education is essential to be competitive in a global economy.

Mr. Adam Walden, Trade and Hosting Coordinator, Governor's Office of Economic Development" commented on trade figures.

Mr. Heimbürger discussed the upcoming trade missions to Japan and Malaysia.

6. State Trade Impact Analysis

Rich distributed and discussed "Policy Issues and Concerns: The Impact of International Trade on National & Sub-National Governments," "There They Go Again: GATS Negotiators Work to Limit Domestic Regulation," and "Memo: WPDR Chairman's Fourth Draft of Domestic Regulation."

7. Other Items / Adjourn

The next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, August 12, 2008 at 2:00 p.m.

Chair Madsen adjourned the meeting at 4:07 p.m.